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INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 3667
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RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 3363
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 8806
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1029
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1689
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
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TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PTER](#) [NP](#)
SUBJECT: AMNESTY SENDS OPEN LETTER TO MAOISTS

Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty. Reasons 1.4 (b/d).

Letter Condemns Maoists Continuing Attacks On Children

11. (U) On the occasion of the 16th International Children's Day (November 20), Amnesty International sent an open letter to the Chairman of the Maoists urging them to immediately halt their attacks on children, schools and teachers. The letter noted that the continuing violence by the Maoists reflected a "total lack of commitment" to the cease-fire and was a "worrying trend" in a country where the decade long conflict had already resulted in widespread and serious human rights abuses and violations by both sides. The letter said that Maoists abducted 8,057 people, mostly students and teachers, from at least nine districts in rural areas during the first four weeks of the cease-fire. Amnesty called on the Maoist leadership to instruct all their cadre to abide by international humanitarian law and end attacks targeting civilians, indiscriminate attacks, abductions and recruitment of child soldiers which have "impacted so greatly on children's lives and their basic human rights."

Comment

12. (C) While the unilateral cease-fire by the Maoists has resulted in a decrease in killings, the AI letter highlights the fact that Maoist abductions and other violations of human rights have not abated. This letter puts the Maoists on notice that, though they have garnered goodwill from their announcement of a unilateral cease-fire, Nepalis and the international community are still waiting for Maoist actions to match their promise.
MORIARTY